TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN- : Will you kindly permit me to thank your gifted correspondent "Hrr" for his graceful defence of me in this morning's SUN. I am quite ignorant as to my good friend's identity, which is the sole reason why I ask permission to occupy your valued space. But while I am likewise unable to recognize my assailant, Mr. Kelleher, this gentleman has, I must admit, placed me under obligations by the intensely amusing collapse of his silly endeavor to correct THE SUS. And as It is truly priestly to return good for evil, let me assure my precipitate monitor that the triform Greeian sigme and the uniform Latin S are by so means identical, whether as to configuration er in regard to their respective locations in the alphabets of the two languages. It may be sided, in passing, that the encyclopedia cited does not approach in doctrine, orthodoxy, or ethical tone even the Landicean standard.

But granting that the three letters in question were from the Greek, they could not possibly be, in the preposterous phrase of Mr. Kelleber, the monograph of the holy name." Why? Because a monograph is a treatise or booklet descriptive of a single theme or specific subject, as contradistinguished from the generic group or body. Obviously the gentleman has been Homerically napping over monogram, a cipher or device in which two or more letters are characteristically interlaced in a solitary diagram.

Unfortunately, however, for my zealous critic, the Oriental Christians did not usually construct their monogrammic delineation of our Saviour upon his personal name, Jesus, but upon his official or Messianic agnomen, Christthe anointed prophet, priest, and king. This was more dear to the Greek because it was his own, because it was endemic of the intellectual people whence sprung the Athenian scientific Bishop whose genius recognized in distant Egypt the godhead of the dying Messiah through the noontide eclipse of the crucifixion, and because of the distinctively Areopagitic attraction that it was preeminently select. The other more vocalistic name has been of immemorial popularity among the Hebrews, and was quite frequently borne even in our Lord's lifetime. Josephus alone gives about a dozen persons of the name. Relatively, therefore, the personal name was somewhat distasteful to the Greek, with whom in racial matters all not Grecian was of secondary account.

Hence the earliest Greek monogram of our Saviour is formed from the first and second letters of the Hellenic Christos, namely chi (x) and rho, interlaced thus, & and symbolizing conjointly both the Saviour and the Andrean form of the cross. This device became, upon Constantine's conversion, a portion of the official Laborum and was straightway re produced in the state papers, upon coins, medals, and the various inscribed diagrams familiar to the trained numismatist. Despite countless vicisatiodes, this initial Christian monogram still holds its own throughout Christendom, for it carries the archeologist back to the premedieval casting in sand from wax patterns, ages anterarior to the coining press, enabling him to touch his lips to the fountain source of Christian iconology.

tan iconology.

Nevertheless, this archaic heritage of the Orient has never selzed so deep hold upon the affections and devotional feelings of the masses of Catholicism as the familiar cipher of the more unctuous name Jesus, commanded by the archangel, "at which every knee shall bend." As the starlit, sky, turn whithersoever you list, unfolds effulgent verses of sidereal poesy, so the cherished I. H. S. is ubiquitous in ecclesiastical furniture, decoration, utensil, and literature. Choice libraries of invaluable books have been written on the great Latin monogram, including antique parchments, pallinpsests, black-lettered Caxtoniana, and the age-worn block books. As a typical specimen of the depth and opulence of this attractive realm of sacred lore, the thoughtful reader of The Six will appreciate the suggestive imprint of Vettori's standard work: De Vetustate et Forma Monogrammatic SS. Nomints Jesus Dissert. Antique coblematims. Roma, 17:2. This work is a thuseum in miniature.

Conspicuous among the most gorgeous representations on record of the Holy Name is the coat of arms of the Jesusts an extinct order little heard of in our day. This pretty escutcheon consisted of the pienary name of Jesus, radiating beams of gold upon a field of azure, surmounted by a dove, alusive to the founder of the brotherhood. Blessed John Colombini, from the Latin columba, a dove. Colombini was a Tuscan nobleman, and gonfalonler of Sienna, his native city. The Jesuats, otherwise known as brothers of St. Jerome, were professional experts in pharmacy, devoted to the distribution of medicine free of cost among the sick poor. From the death of their noble founder to the suppression of the institute by Clement IX. the Jesuats flourished during three centuries, minus one year 1387-1466. evertheless, this archaic heritage of the

ie suppression of the institute by Clement IX.

The Jesuaus flourished during three centuries, sinus one year, 1367-1668.

From the august legend of the Jesuatical andard, while the Jesuats were yet in the pitth of their usefulness, the brilliant preacher, the Bernarding of Sterna supersisted monographs. renith of sheir averaliness, the building preacher. St. Bernardin of S'enna, syncopated monogrammically the endearing telliteral symbol I. H. S., wesided for evermore to his unique agnomen, "Thunderer of the name of Jesus." As an antidote to profane speech and repulsive swearing, acceptable precedent in his day. St. Bernardin

used to hold about at the end of his sermon the reversed emblem for veneration.

Accused of encouraging superstition, the sucred orator was ably defended in St. Peter's assilica. Home, in presence of Pops Martin V. The entire history of this interesting episode is given in the great historic work of the renowned Irish annalist. Luke Wadding. With many apologies for eccupying so much of your space. New York, Oct. 9. Hugh Flattenty.

To the Editor of the Sux-Sir: I have not seen either Mr. Kelleher's or The Sux-serplanation of the monogram I. H. S. The three better certainly do not

monogram I. H. S. The three letters certainly do not monogram I. H. S. The three letters certainly do not stand for Jesus (Jesus) Hominum Salvator, else they would not be found in Greek churches, manuscripts, Ikons, &c. They are the Brai Cree letters of the Greek word Jesus, the apparent H bidger the capital et a flow E lof the Greek slottabet. The S is found in all old manuscripts, and in nuclear art written like a feet in the Greek slottabet. The S is found in all old manuscripts, and form of the Greek slottabet. The S is found in all old manuscripts, and the order of the Greek slottan in the form that the removement therefore she cit to principle without any per old after sich office of the letters I il S, not I. H. S. in incorrect form based on the initiation in the latters formed the initiation of Jesus Hominum Salvator.

To the Edward of the Tables of Jesus Hominum Salvator.

ent Mr Kel eller has ample authority for his statement rexard ng the origin and meaning of "I. H. S." It is hard to convince any one ignorant of Greek that the second letter represents the long E (eta) and not the Bornan H. The ancient custom of forming monograms from the letters of the second name-fesous Christos-survives in the "chi-rios" with which the walls of our churches are decorated at Christmas, and which in the time of are desorated at Christmas, and which in the time of the Emperor Constantine were used upon hanners and battle flars. Sometimes symbols instead of mono-grams were employed, as in the case of the fish, which still surmounts several of the old European churches (tout Irish readers, will at once recall St. Anne Shan-den at Cark, sacred to the memory of Fatter Prout), and which many people imadice has something to do with at Peter. But the custom has been traced to an entirely different source. The latters of the track word signifying fish, "lightline," are also the initial latters of a sentence which translated into English, Peads: "Jesus Christ, the Son of God, our Saviour." New York, Oct. U.

To THE EDITOR OF THE SUS-Sir: I believe, however, that even sourcel will be willing to accept as authority Walter W. Skeat, whose etymological die-tionary son have doubtless at hand. Ed. 1882, p. 307, word "deals," which shows Mr. Kellsher's statement to be correct.

To the Epiton of the Sex-Sir: Permit me as a former contributor to the columns of the Sex and how a priest of the diocese of Vermont to write a line or two about the letter signed "An ex-Ritualist, Now a Catholic," (Let. 3).

of benediction." or the Aristotician dogma of "sub-stance." But the confessional and resary are as much stance." But the confessional and rosary are as much threek as froman. The title applied to the R. V. Mary of Trotokos (translated "Goodbearer," or "Parent of God'), was set forth by the General Connell of Fincaux, A. D. 481, the majority of whose likhopa were Criental, and is accepted by every orthodox Christian in the world. It is no more "Romais" than the doctrine of the Roly Trinity is, 1 an see a wide difference, inswever between stylling the R. V. "Mother of Forcusa" and calling her "given of Heaven," Although I have been more than four years a priess in Vernaud, I have heavy heard the silativat hint of the alegaed arcident of "cant-long Ruid" in the challes.

paragraphs of that article, is an old-time and most valued friend of our family. An invalid during the last two years, during the last twelve months Miss H, has been a sufferer from most agonizing disorders, such as heart disease, dyspepsia, and nervous exhaustion. She was practically helpless and almost blind, so that we only heard of her through her purse and attendants. Within the week we have re-

attendants. Within the week we have received a long and joyful account of her cure, written by her own land, which agrees with the description given by your correspondent, save that it is more minute.

During the thirteen days preceding Sept. 25, on which date she was "made whole." Miss H took neither food nor drink, save a small amount of hot water and a teaspoonful of pounded beef twice during each twenty-four hours. On the 24th even that small amount caused such distress that only the most energetic treatment prolonged her life. On the morning of the 25th she was taken out by friends to get the healing influences of air and sunlight, when another spasm of the heart selzed her in its jeadly clutches, although that day nothing had passed her lips. The phaeton chanced to stop under a tree, near where crowds were waiting the ministration of the healer. A friend of Miss H. ran to Mr. Schlatter and begged him to see what could be done to the sufferer, whose torturing pains were indescribable. In silence this remarkable man held Miss H. ra hands full five minutes longer than his usual treatment.

"Immediately," she writes me, "all pain

whose torturing pains were indescribable. In silence this remarkable man held Miss H.'s hands full five minutes longer than his usual treatment.

'Immediately," she writes me, "all pain was gone, I was born again; my night of suffering changed to unspeakable gladness. A new song was put into my roouth, an eternal thankagiving to the power that rules the universe. For this Divine Healer I breathe a continual prayer that his feet may run and not be weary; so that he may still draw from the great Overson! that power that can heal both soul and body."

My friend goes on to state that, instead of returning home in her rejoicing, against the advice from attendants, she walked beside a friend who had been in line all the morning, waiting her turn to be healed, for one full hour. Then she returned to her home and partook of a hearty meal of beefsteak, vegetables, &c., without discomfort. "I walk a mile daily, and take a long ride as well," and her letter concludes with various expressions of delight and thankfulness.

The SUN has wisely suggested that a commission be appointed to search for the cause and modus operandi of such cases as these. To deny them is vain. We must take testimony. That the dogmatism of scientists in the past has been a hinderance to the progress of the race, is universally acknowledged. In the light of to-day it is dwindling.

It will be observed that Mr. Schlatter, like almost all great healers and religious reformers, comes from the common people. Neither intellectual endowments, nor rank, nor social prestige, nor wealth attracts those currents of revivifying life that are controlled by no believer in dogmatic theology. Faith counts for much, but there must be something for faith to act upon and with. We do not believe in minucles, but some of us do believe in an "infinite and eternal energy." with the harmonious vibrations of which we may accord, to the end of attaining health and happiness, as well as righteeven.

Mr. Forbes on Electrical Engineers.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUS-Sir: Mr. George emerged from obscurity several years ago when pointment as consulting electrical engineer for the corporation which built the electrical power works at Niagara Falls, has published an article in Blackscood's Magazine for September, in which he exposes his caddishness, ignorance, and malice in every paragraph of the effusion.

The article is entitled "Harnessing Niagara." The writer says, "Until I went to America the manufacturers of electrical machinery never had a consulting engineer to deal with." The truth is that from the beginning of the electrical industry the manufacturers of our country have employed the ablest consulting en-

try have employed the ablest consulting engineers in the world.

It appears further on in the article that Mr. Forbes was obliged to "call down" the brilliant financiers whose servant he was when at Niagara Falls. Hear him: "I had at times great difficulty in keeping the President and Vice-President in hand." That sounds like the statement made by the Hon. Grover Cleveland (who is a large stockholder in the Niagara Falls scheme) regarding Congress.

In another place Mr. Forbes says: "An Englishman in America should always try to retain his Englishness; otherwise in a year or two he will be reduced to the level of an average American;" and he further says: "There are two great mistakes commonly made as to Americans; one is that they are original inventors, the other is that they are furnorous. Neither of these propositions is true."

cans: one is that they are original inventors, the other is that they are humorous. Neither of these propositions is true."

After whining because "females and babies are admitted to the bedrooms of the club house in Tuxedo Park," Forbes wabbles along until he describes the plant at Niagara, insults American engineers, manufacturers, politicians, and capitalist, and discharges a venomous dart at Lord Kelvin, who adversely criticised Forbes's plans, thereby saving the corporation \$250,000 by taking precisely the stand taken by the United States expert engineers. They maintained that there were boys in the technical colleges in Boston, New York, Hoboken, and elsewhere who were abler engineers than Forbes, whose Niagara plans provoked the derision of Lord Kelvin, Prof. Ferranti, and other British engineers at a meeting held in London in 1893.

If the syndicate which started the Niagara Falls enterprise had followed Forbes's ideas, the plant would have been condemned and sold for old junk; but fortunately the syndicate employed Lord Kelvin, Major John Bogart, existate Engineer of New York, and other famous experts, to decide upon the practicability of Forbes's plans, which were found to be almost worthless. Then Mr. George Westinghouse, Jr., Mr. Nicola Tesla, and other eminent electricians were called to devise a system for transmitting electricity, and these American plans were adopted.

New York, Oct. 3, 1805.

FARIOUS QUESTIONS.

# VARIOUS QUESTIONS.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—Sir: Heing somewhat of a writer of dialect myself, and baving an idea I know something about it. I would like to inquire of The Sun why most of the persons who write dialect don't learn the rudiments of the mechanics of it? As an instance of an editor and a writer combining in not knowing how to do it. I call The Sun's attention to an article in the October Harper, under the title "Jamie the Kid." (without the usual comma) written by Josiah Flynt. In one column of that article (right hand, on page 778) I find the word "you" (which, by the way, is a hard one for the dialect writter) written as you, ye, yu cher, chew, and yer. Just how or why "you" should be spelled "yu," with an spostrophe after, I cannot see, though I might understand the word if writter 'y'a," insamuch as the apostrophe means an omission, and o is evidently omitted from you when it is spelled "yu." but it comes between the y and the u, not after the u.

In any event, when trying to spell a word to get at its peculiarity of pronunciation, why leave the letters in it that make it pronounce correctly? One character says. "Yer goin home fer good " y yu'musta' tome back," and just before that he says: "Xe goin home now, all 'cher?" "The Kid" says to this character. All chew somethin dead fine! I before in yer line west of Benver." was the fliest in yer line west of Benver." when the cher is where the editor's flue work should come in yer line west of Benver." which he has learned in editing dislect stories. And white I am about it, i should like to ask why editors permit contributors of dislect matter to spell words in correctly when the idea of it is to convey incorrect pronunciation. Take the word "protection" for instance. The ignorant man would call it "perfect on," very likely, and the editor should have it spelled so, but all the chances are that the will let it go as "perfeck shoul," if the writer so spells it.

That kind of spelling is all right when the writer is endeavoring to show how his character would spell it out himself, following his own ideas of orthography, but the writers is given to this sort of thing, and he can get more lefters lint a word without changing its pronunciation in the slightest than any-body! Know of. If the editor of Hongraph's for October

and he can get more letters that a word without changing its promunciation in the slightest than any-body! know of. If the editor of Harper's for October will explain his system of editing dislett, he will be conferring a great favor upon a great many more dalect writers than perhaps, there ought to be.

Willo THYMEON-THE HUDSON, Oct. 3. DIALECTICES.

# Constitutional Facts.

To THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir: For the information of your correspond at, "A Student of History," permit me to say that the provisions of the Constitu-tion that the common and statute law of England as it existed on April 19, 1775, shall continue to be the Although I have been more than four years a priest in Vermont, I have been more hard for sugar a priest in Vermont, I have been more hard for sugar a priest in Vermont, I have been more hard for sugar a priest in Vermont, I have hever heard for sugar and that grants made by the King of Great Britain and the allier of the allier of "enth-ding Ruid" in the fail for our correspondent has not drawn too largely on an excited tongination in restraying the dingers which link in the consecurated challer, he should use his influence to have if firbidden also to the officiating priest. This would prevent the crime, common in give, or possoning the challes in order to murder the feletrant. This horrible actrograms outrage has never been practiced, extept in the Homan communical but there it is well known.

However here practiced, extept in the Homan communical but there it is well known.

However here practiced callers of the Homan communical but there it is well known.

However have been more than a passaling notice of the fait of the Case of a Woman Who Wos Cared By Him.

To the Edition of the Case of a Woman who would be the fait of the case of healing as described by your Denver correspondent through the agreety of Francelsco Schilatter, now of that city. His remarkable and interesting anterments, contained in the case of healing and described by your Denver correspondent through the agreety of Francelsco Schilatter, now of that city. His remarkable and interesting anterments, contained in the case of healing and described by your Denver correspondent through the agreety of Francelsco Schilatter, now of that city. His remarkable and interesting anterments, contained in the closing.

The dauchter of the Vermont physician, where we have involved, it is probable, but I do not state it as a feel of the case in the closing of the Declaration of Highlie with the dependency. A continuition of the faits, which was adopted the probable but I do not state it as a feel of the case of the Case of the Declaration of Highlie with t

stated can be had by an examination of the first State Constitution, the minutes of the Convention, probably to be found in the fitset library at Albany, and by con-sulting any good blatory of the United blates. F. R. VAS VECETER.

An Unhappy Chestnut Ester. To the Euron of Tim Sch-Sir; This may seem To the Entrol of 110 803—517; This may seem a surprising statement to roup, but what I am about to say regarding chestnut ments is the truth, as hundreds of poor devils would testify to if they dared contess this insideous weakness. My object in writing to you is not to suppress the disease, but to im-

You have no doubt noticed that at this time every year the man who sells rosst chestnuts begins to take up his station at street corners. You have also, perhsps, remarked the delicious odor that emanated from his iron pot—at least, you used to remark this, but I will defy you to find that odor nowadays, albut I will derly you to and that odor nowadays, although the chestnut man is still in view. What has
happened? My dear sir, a great deal has happened.
Oh, have patience with me: you don't know what it
is to suffer as 1 do now.
It began in this way: A coursic of seasons ago some
miserable wrotch began to put his chestnuts. In water
first. That made them our open well when they were
put over the fire-dive see? Directly this was some
every vender followed the example of it. From that
moment I couldn't find a thoroughly cooked chestnut
in town. All the fine old meatiness had vanished.
But, to make matters worse, some of three miserable
chestnut sellers suddenly began to adopt a new plan.
It seemed to be a concerted movement.
They began to emoke their chestnuts.
They began to emoke their chestnuts.
The fuel now seems to be any old rubbish; the
chestnuts are not half heated through, and they are
piled up on a sheet of paper over merely a warm
stove. They are all doing this. Where there used to
be fire there's nothing but smoke. I look with pity on
the coming generation; they will never know chestnuts as I have known them.
Oh, sir, cannot something be done about this?
Won't you send your Italian reporters around to
these deluced men and point out to them the error of
their ways. though the chestnut man is still in view. What has

there detuces here any part to the present demoral-their ways?

I can't tell you how I suffer by the present demoral-isation. I have been brought to a mental nauperism by chestnuts. I sometimes eat two quarts a day. I can't pass a stand without purchasing more, even if my pocket is full. I used to walk the avenues pravely; now I sidle down side streets while I munch. I have

### THE VEGETARIAN RESTAURANT. Mr. Partey Says Its Customers Were Well

Fed and of Superior Morals. TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir: I take exception to some of the statements made in Tirk SUN concerning the closing of the vegetarian restaurant in West Twenty-third street. I am still an adherent of the principles involved, and many others, members of our club and sympathizers, have falled to see the necessity of reverting back to animal tendencies.

Regarding the regular patrons, I had the pleasure of meeting many of them socially and incidentally, and was struck with the refinement and consideration shown in their intercourse. Perhaps some of the frequenters had sallow complexions; but is it not so of every hotel and restaurant? Furthermore, you cannot deny the efficacy of our diet in the cure of many diseases, such as inflammatory rheuma-

hotel and restaurant? Furthermore, you cannot deny the efficacy of our diet in the cure of many diseases, such as inflammatory rheumatism, gout, dyspepsia, &c. This being so, it naturally follows that many doctors in their really sane moments should recommend it to patients under treatment. Dr. Trall, I believe, in one of his treatless on the subject explains the fact why so many men in adopting such a reform in their lives fall in permanency. He asserts that too many expect impossibilities from such a change, and, suffering from the results of previous excesses, their digestive organs delilitated, vitality at a low ebb, they do not study or analyze the quality or quantity of food necessary for their particular case.

If necessary I can summon a dozen gentlemen who patronized the vegetarian restaurant regularly, who, in point of physical development and appearance are equal to the average citizen, but in point of morals and spiritual development infinitely superior. The force that underlies dietetic reform is not generally appreciated. It has come to stay nevertheless, and when the movement gains sufficient strength, when the imvertance of hygienic knowledge is admitted by a wider circle, there'll be no need of formulating new excise laws.

The necessitarian's view of wasteful luxuries needs great propping, and will not hold when viewed by the light of reason or conscience. We do not claim to be asceties, are rational in our conduct, hearty in our appetites, and vatient under abuse, as we long for the reign of reason and morality, when slaughtering and the lesser evils will be unknown. Yours respectfully.

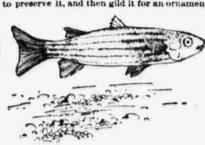
JOHN F. FARLEY, Vice-President New York Vegetarian Club, 320 East Eighteenth street.

### THE FILEFISH.

A Curious Creature, Which Has the Habit

The filefish is found along our Atlantic coast from Cape Cod to Florida and in the waters of the West Indies; it is common here in sum-mer; there are eleven filefish now at the New York Aquarium that were taken in Graves-end Bay. When motionless or when moving about slowly the filefish ordinarily carries it self with its head downward, at an angle of forty-five degrees or more. Often it takes a position more nearly horizontal; and often perpendicular; sometimes, indeed, it inclines backward. The filefish, which is not by any means the only fish that has in this way the appearance of standing more or less on its head, akes these attitudes probably for greater co venience in feeding; when swimming more rapidly or going a distance it moves with the body horizontal, in the usual manner.

The filefish feeds on small crustaceans, includ-ing barnacles, and such other growths of animal life as it finds on rocks, on stone work and spiles, and on marine plants; it eats shrimps when it can catch them, and it picks up small scraps of food, fragments left by larger fishes feeding. The filefish is very rarely eaten; it is but little more than skin and bones. It can be dried in the sun. Fishermen sometimes dry the filefish, give it a coat of shellar to preserve it, and then gild it for an ornament.



It shrivels somewhat in drying, and there is

It shrivels somewhat in drying, and there is so little flesh on it that it shows the bony structure.

In color and in form the filefish varies extremely with age. Its first dorsal fin consists of a single spine, which, in the mature flah, is long, slender, rough, and file-like. It is from this spine, and from the rough, file-like character of its skin that the filefish takes its name; there is, however, a West Indian filefish that has a smooth skin. The filefish has a pointed smout, its body is thin and deep, and the young fish has a rather long, slender and pointed tail; in the adult fish the tail is rounded, and it becomes proportionately shorter with age. The mouth is very small and obliquely placed; the under jaw projects; the lower teeth are directed obliquely upward and backward. The eye is large. The first dorsal fin or file-like spine is carried lying down against the back, or erected at one angle or another. The soft dorsal fin and the anal fin are very long at the base, and each is composed of a large number of rather short rays; when the fish swims these fins have a wavy motion.

In the change of form which it undergoes the filefish is remarkable. Not only is the tail much longer and more pointed in the young fish, but in the very young, one, for example, not more than three mouths old, that portion of the body in front of the soft dorsal and of the anal fin is twice as deep us the fart of edge of a centreboard extends below the keel of a boat. When the fish is a year old this abrupt break in the line of the under side, the which part extending down below the rest of the fish body abruptly, something as the after edge of a centreboard extends below the keel of a boat. When the fish is a year old this abrupt break in the line of the under side, it he fish of three months of age, which would be about three and a half inches long, the dorsal fin or spine would have attained a length or ten inches in length and a year old the dorsal fin or spine would have attained a length of the heart of its body will

### LAKE NICARAGUA CROSSED

A TRIP THAT WAS INTERESTING FOR SEVERAL REASONS.

Passing the Night in Missit Cote Arranged In Heterogeneous Fashion on the Open Deck-Sounds that Bid Not, and Other Things that Did, Soothe-A Field for the Antiquary that Will Se Near at Hand When the Nienragua Canal Is Done,

For real human interest I suppose that the

things of which one may hear while journeying across Lake Nicaragua are superior to the personal experiences of the traveller, but one never thinks so when an route. For what are even the marvellous evidences of a civilization that probably existed before the days of Noah in comparison with the present irritations that destroy a night's rest when one is worn out with the labor of a day's sight-seeing in a tropical climate? Or, on the other hand, what does one care for the beads and amulets the maidens of the remote past wore when gazing in dreamy mood at flushing faces and rounded forms animated by the gentle music of the gui-After passing the main part of the day in vandering about the little old port of San Car-

tar and other stringed instruments? los, as recently told in THE SUN, I returned to the landing and found my baggage had been transferred to the steamer Victoria, which serves for transporting the freight and passenger traffic of the lake. The roustabouts were still at work transferring cargo when our dinner bell rang, and a number of the passengers were watching them. I have already said something of the Central American as a laborer, but so many travellers have written of the barefooted peon as a lazy dog that I cannot help recording here the remark of a Yankee commercial trav eller as he looked at these roustabouts:

"I wish that every man who has called these people lazy could be compelled to help transfer that coffee for just one hour," he said. So do I. Clothed in overalls and nothing more, the men were carrying sacks of coffee that weighed 125 pounds each from one deck other and doing it on the run. Their brown bodies, glisten ng with moisture and showing the well-developed muscles playing to and fro under the changing strains, were about as far removed from the conventional picture of a Nicaragua peon idling in a hammock as one could well imagine. They were doing the hardest kind of work in a tropical climate, and doing it with a cheerfulness and a bandying of jokes and wittleisms that were especially interesting to one not unaccustomed to the sights and sounds along shore in South and West streets, New York, for instance, and the docks of Buffalo and Chicago. And when they had completed their work, instead of going to near-by saloons and calling for bootleg glasses of lager and mixed ales, they put on their shirts, ate a plain meal that consisted chiefly of boiled plantains and meat, and then curled down on the deck and the landing and went to sleep.

The Victoria was a twin-screw steel steamer. sion that she was all decks and no hold, that had been built in the United States for that trade. To the eye she was neat and clean, and well kept every way. The passengers in going on board noted these facts with satisfaction They were made still more comfortable by the dinner that was served. The bill of fare, save in one respect, was that common to the better Central American hotels. It included soup, entrees, roasts of two or three kinds of meat, Nicaragua. It is a dessert that might be served wherever bananas grow and white sweet curds of cheese are made, but I have found it only in Nicaragua, and I saw it first on the Victoria. When ready for a sweet the waiter brought us fried plantains and a slice of creamy white cheese. It is a combination that just touches and covers out of sight the spot.

A host of first-class passengers came on board after dinner, prepared to spend the night, because the boat was to leave very early, according to the Captain. Among the rest came four native musicians with stringed instruments. Everybody was soon comfortably seated in big armchairs, the Americans in a group by themselves, smoking, and the musicians began to The sun had just gone down, and the noise of the roustabouts on the deck below had ceased. A soft breath of air came drifting over the lake. Everybody had been talking in animated fashion, but when the music began we all stopped to listen. And there we who were from the North sat and smoked and dreamed. But some of the natives, especially a group of young ladies in charge of a severe-fa their pouting lips parted, their bosoms rose and fell with fuller inspirations, and their feet kept time with the rhythm until the commercial traveiler broke the spell that held us by saying:

"Gee! what a waste of music and pretty girls!" To his mind there should have been a dance

straightway.

But we forgot all about the music and the pretty girls and the other pleasing features of the evening when time to retire came. There were not enough staterooms for all the women, although there was not an unusual crowd on board. The vessel as built had enough, but nearly half the rooms were occupied by members of the crew, including the colored steward. To me that seemed to be a very small matter, though one would naturally prefer attending to his tollet in the morning in private. Even the rule of the ship prohibiting the swinging of hammocks, though ridiculous, was nothing to excite one, but when a cot four inches too short

the rule of the ship prohibiting the swinging of hammocks, though ridiculous, was nothing to excite one, but when a cot four inches too short was offered me I wanted to draw the line, but youldn't. The cole were all built on the plan of bargain-counter shirts, and one had no choice in the cole. My friend the commor bedding with the cot. My friend the commor bedding with the cot. My friend the commor bedding with the cot. My friend the commor bedding when travelling in Central America deserved to go without, even if the air did get chilly before morning.

"But why does not the ship provide blankets as ships do in the States?" said I.

"It's because of the natives here. We do not mean to help spread the discases they have." I am bound to say that I believe he slandered the natives. The ship was then under the management of the Nicaragua Canal Construction Company, and the superintendent of the line was doing everything to economize in the matter of expenses. If any reader contemplates a journey in Nicaragua, he should carry two light blankets, for he will need them on the lake.

However, the lack of bedding worked no discomfort for me, because I lad the canvas hammock to take its place. But what was worse than the character of the beds was their arangement. They were scattered about the deck in heterogeneous fashion, and the passengers had to scramble for them. Men and women and children were thus thrown together, almost regardless of family ties. No respect for the presence of women was shown by the majority of the men when disrobling or at any other time, and even the American Consul at Managua and his wife were at first obliged to take cots surrounded by a rabble of natives, thought she captain wentually sought them outside the common who were so much interested in the nuse occupied one of the staterosms, and that the elderly seftors of severe visage, who had charge of them, occupied a cut which she placed across the door of their room.

Then, although everybody turned in as early as 10 o'clock, a considerable

pigs, and a horse. This was just at nightfull, Passengers and stock were necessarily huddled together. The horse took agreat fancy to Mrs. Newell's back hair, and, as he had been placed where he could induige his fancy, she had to put the Consul on guard with a case and keep him there. The plays, having a free run of the scow, were not so easily fended off, but the chickens were in a coop, and did not bother any one. The pilot could not steer the scow, and so it went signasging from shore to shore, slewing first bow and then stern on, and occasionally striking the overhanging brush, from which, on two occasions, snakes were knocked into the water, bo, for a snake on board would probably have driven everybody into the water. However, so strong is the soothing influence of the climate of Nicaragua, the more we talked of past discomforts the further away the discomforts seemed, and what with our arm-chairs and the fresh breeze and the motion of the boat and the picture of the hills along the north shore covered with the forests that grew there after the city-building inhabitants had been exterminated, we all became very cheerful. After skirting the north coast for perhaps three-fourths of its length, we arrived at a pier that had been built out into the lake, and had a wooden storehouse with an iron roof on its shore end. There was a narrow-gauge railroad running from the pier away to the northwest along the shore of the lake, and pot very far away a ranch house with whitewashed mud walls, a tile floor, and a tile roof that familied down over the walls and out over broad verandas. A half mile or more up the beach were a couple of thatched huts. The rest of the scenery was composed of hills and valleys, pretty well covered with brush and second growth timber that were fast obliterating the nelds that had once had existence there.

The Captain told us that this was San Ubaido, the lake port of Acoyapa, a town that was in a fich gold mining district worked by English capitalists. The railroad was the beginning of a l

ie trouble.
It was a little astonishing to find that a doze.

It was a future stoneshing to most that a coreal town of one dwelling house, but the Captain town of one of the Captain town of the Ca

a race, of whom no trace has been found elewhere, that In an unknown day cultivated the
soil and doubtless enjoyed life as the modern
inhabitants do, in spite of the ever-present
threat of the volcano, but they were whelmed
in a flaming flood, and died and were forgotten.
And that they had existed would never have
been known, perhaps, but that one Don José
Angel Luna, a modern inhabitant, dug a ditch
instead of building a fence to divide his land
from his neighbor's, and the worsmom struck
their tools into the ancient burtal place.

It was at 4 P. M. that we passed the interesting village of Moyogaipa. Before sundown
we were at the old wooden pier at San Jorge,
the lake port of the little city of Rivas. It was
in this region that Filibuster Walker achieved
notoriety and a felon's death by trying to turn
the free republic into a slave state. It was
here, too, as The Sux has told, that Juan Santo
Maria of Alajuela. Costa Rica, carned good
fame and one of the most striking monuments
in all the Americas by volunteering to die for
his country when fighting the filibuster.

I lost here two very pleasant fellow travellers, Mr. R. H. Hunstock, the commercial
traveller from San Antonio, Tex, and Dr. P.
Minoz, a physician living at Rivas, who had
passed three years in Louisville, Ky, and two
in New York, to whom I was indebted for some
of the more interesting facts of this narrative.
Both went ashore at San Jorge.

We lay at the pier until late at night, with a
picturesque throng of natives about the pier
and the bost, so that no traveller could think
of going to bed, and then at midnight steamed
away. A gale of wind kept the ship pitching
about in remarkable fashion for an hour or so
when off Zapatera island, and so when, just
after sunrise, we landed at the pier at Granada,
there was probably not a passenger who was
not particularly glad to leave the ship and seek
the peace and quiet of a Central American lodging piace.

TO PRESERVE THE PALISADES.

Fortifying Them and Making Them a Mil-itary Reservation Alike Improbable.

It is not strange that public sentiment even beyond New Jersey and New York should have been stirred up by the current movement to preserve from further injury the Palisades of the Hudson.

This bold, runned, and picturesque wall of trap rock, extending for many miles along the right bank of the river, near its mouth, and rising in some places several hundred feet alindeed, the most charming, but it has well been beautiful stream. Historical incidents, too, cluster about this frowning battlement. Fort Lee shares revolutionary memories with Tappan, which is at the upper end of the mighty bulwark; but, of course, it is as a piece of natural scenery that its preservation is now demanded

Last winter the Legislature of New York passed a bill, which became a law on March 12, 1895, for the appointment of Commissioners to confer with like representatives of New Jersey for the acquisition of the Palisades of the Hudson River by the United States." Three such Commissioners were to be appointed by each State, and their purpose was to adopt such means as might be necessary to secure action by Congress to acquire the Palisades "as a reser vation, or for the purposes of fortification. Thus the first step has been the one familiar in such cases, that of calling in the aid of the pational Government and its Treasury to protect the Palisades from further ravages of the in-

dustrious quarryman. As to utilizing these cliffs as a line of fortification, it is urged that if they were studded with rifled guns and mortars they could be made "another Gibraltar," and would check an attack on New York by an enemy proceed

made "another Gibraltar," and would check an attack on New York by an enemy proceeding through the Hudson River Valley from Canada or from New England.

But this project of turning the cliffs into fortresses is inadmissible, and, indeed, little less than absurd. They would obviously be of no value whatever as an auxiliary to the seaward defences on the southern or Sandy Hook side, for if these latter should prove insufficient the city would fail. On the Sound side it is equally evident that if the batteries at David's Island, Willet's Point, and other stations there should be sileneed, an enemy could bombard Brooklyn and the eastern part of New York, while remaining beyond range of the Palisades. As to the northern approaches, a foreign army could not conceivably, with all the warning which sending such a force across the ocean implies, perform the exploit of making its way across country from Canada or Boston to New York. If it did, the Palisades could not save the city, On the south, as far as Sandy Hook, the key of the situation is the harbor defences; and beyond that on the New Jersey cosst, there is no port for war ships.

It is true that the very term Palisades, as

the situation is the harbor defences; and beyond that on the New Jersey coast, there is no port for war ships.

It is true that the very term Palisades, as applied to this massive escarpment, shows that its military aspect struck those that gave it this name. And it was long ago pointed out, too, that the French explorers who visited the river before Hudson gave the whole region a name taken from the prodigious natural scarp which seemed to them its most distinctive feature. But that is quite a different matter from actually fortifying heights situated where they are not wanted for defence, and the idea of diverting money needed for real coast protection to this project must be abandoned.

Another projectal is that of using the plateau on the Palisades as a military park or reservation. It is suggested that since there has been a movement to increase the number of regular troops stationed at New York, a fine military post for their accommodation could be erected on this spot, and asplendid esplanade constructed for the instruction and training of troops movement to increase the number of regular troops stationed at New York, a fine military post for their accommodation could be erected on this spot, and asplendid esplanade constructed for the instruction and training of troops. But this project is almost as much out of the question as the one for fortifying the cliffs. The Government has now, in and around New York harbor, Governor's Island, Fort Wadaworth, Fort Hamilton, David's Island, Willet's Point, Sandy Hook, and the new mortar battery reservation behind Coney Island. Besides, it is well known that Governor's Island alone could accommodate an entire additional regiment of infantry, if such a force could be spared from other quarters for concentration at New York.

Yet again, there would be no reason in constructing a military park on the Palisades in the same way that parks have been established at Gettysburg and Chickamanga; for no battle was fought there. Of course, too, there is no analogy between such a park and the forest reservations set aside under the act of 1890, as these latter are already composed of public lands. The only practicable ground on which an appeal could be made to Congress would be that of preserving the Palisades for their picturesque value, just as the Yosemite Valley and the Yellowstone Park have been preserved by its intervention. But it must be said that the cases are quite different, and that those who have at heart the preservation of the Palisades should not place their whole reliance on the hope of aid by the general Government.

If New York and New Jersey should be convinced that they must bear the burden and the cost of this enterprise, the question of the Palisades from destruction. If this acquisition should not commend their it should not commend the first in the Government of the United States, it would apparently be the proper task of New Jersey. Then, whether it would be wise, in accomplishing this main purpose, to go a little further and secure a handsome bollevard or driveway along the river hank, or a park at t

## A CENTENARIAN SPORTSMAN. Isane Loveless, Aged About 110 Years, Is a Good Shot with His Rifle,

From the Indianapolis Sentinel.

PETERSBURG. Oct. 6.—In a nest and substantial ivy-grown cottage, in the southern part of Pike county, dwells Isaac Loveless, the oldest man in the county and probably the oldest man in southern Indiana. While his exact age cannot be ascertained, the tax records at the Court House at Petersburg show him to be somewhere between 108 and 110 years old. He came to this county from North Carolina when a small boy, when there were only eight houses in the county, and when the only roads were Indian trails. His father bought a large tract of land and was successful, so far as a farmer could be in the early days, with all the hardships and dis-

and was successful, so far as a farmer could be in the early days, with all the hardships and disadvantages which the early settlers of any country have to endure.

Mr. Loveless is of medium size and will weigh probably 140 or 150 pounds. Hard work has slightly bent his form and his learing is impaired, but his voice is still strong and his eyes sparkle with a brightness pecular to a man of strength and endurance, and, remarkable as it may seem, he still clings to his favorite amusement, that of hunting, and there are very few sportsmen in the county who equal him in the use of the rifle. When asked as to the condition of his health, he said he did not remember being sick more than twice in his lifer once, when stricken with choices, and a short time ago, when he was kicked by a unic.

In the early days he was a Whig and later a Republican, but he votes for men and principles more than he does for party, and claims that the best man in the field will always get his vote. He smillingly declares that he is the only man of his age living who does not remember George Washington.

He has been married twice and is the father of fifteen children, home of whom are now living. He reads the daily papers and keeps well posted on the current news of the day.

Notwithstanding his extremeage and the fact that he has always been a farmer, he still takes pride in his personal appearance and never comes to town without being cleanly shaved and wearing a becoming necktie. He has no desire to die, but says he is very well contented, in fact happy, and that he expect to live several years yet and vote for at least two more Presidents.

BARREN ISLAND'S MAYOR.

NOME ADVENTURES OF A MAN WHO WANTS TO BE AN ALDERMAN.

ne Shidmore's Varied Paties on Barren Island-Row Ro Haved His Life by Dancing and Westd Have Given 8506 In Gold for a Ham Sandwich. Abs Skidmore, the Mayor of Barren Island, wants

On Jan. 1 next the town of Flatlands will become the Thirty-second ward of Brooklyn, There is a difference of opinion among the Brooklyn politicians as to whether Flatland. ers will have a right to vote for the city ticket at the coming election. The residents of Flat-lands argue that on Jan. 1 they will be park and parcel of Brooklyn, and consequently have a right to representation in the Board of Aldere men. Abe Skidmore is one of those who less lieve this theory, and he has consequently an-nounced himself as a candidate for Aldermanid honors. The fact that he has not been nombnated makes no difference. He hopes to la. But some of his enemies are unkind enough to throw salt water on his little boom. These enemies keep reminding him that he is far from the Brooklyn City Hall. They tell him that first of all he must get a Supreme Cours Justice to decide that Canarsie is entitled to an Alderman. Then they tell him that he must get the regular Republican nomination, and after that get elected. But all this does not worry him. He is a candidate just the same, and he doesn't care who knows it. He says he is entitled to be an Alderman because the reform Police Commissioner of Canarsic discharged him from his job as police Sergeant, an office he got at the time the Canarsie police force was organized two years ago. He says that he won't worry if he is disappointed in the Alder manic battle, because he has become accuse tomed to disappointments, and has seen some very tough days.
"Why, sir, I have had the toughest kind of

experiences," he said to a Sun reporter. "I have been shipwrecked, nearly drowned, run over, and almost frozen to death. I'll tell you few incidents. Part of my duties as Mayor of Barren Island, as the boys called it, was to carry the money to pay the workmen. I carried it every two weeks from the First National Bank in Williamsburgh to Barren Island. I usually carried \$3,000 in gold. These trips are all right in summer time, but very tough in winter. I carried the gold in a bag from the foot of Broadway. Williamsburgh, all the way to Canarsie Landing. There I would be met by the tugboat Edith Peck, or the C. G. Dean. The boat would take me across Jamaica Bay to Barren Island. One day-it was the coldest day that came that winter-the bay was full of ice. I got aboard of the boat, and she started for Barren Island. It was growing colder all the time, and when we got out in the middle of the bay there was ice all around us, and we froze fast. We only had one wheelbarrow of coal with us, and that lasted but one night. All the provisions we had was a line of sals pork and two loaves of bread. There were six other men aboard the boat, the engineer, Jim Hallenbeck, the fireman, and four peddlers. It was Saturday night, and we decided, to make the best of it. So we cooked a porit. On the following day, Sunday, our coal was all gone, and the fire beneath the boiler died out. Then we laid the remaining pieces of pork on the smouldering ashes, and had to eat them half cooked. We almost perished with the cold that night, and all of us were very hungry. We signalled from the deck with lanterns, but no one could get near us to bring re-Would you believe it, that an accordion saved our lives that night?" "How was that?" inquired the reporter.

"Well. Jim Hallenbeck was right smart at play-

ing an accordion. One of the peddlers had an accordion in his pack. He was bringing it to Barren Island for a customer, but it came in mighty good for us. Only for that 'ere soder crab on Jed Davis's stand. Hallenbeck, he jest picked up that accordion, and says her Boys, yer got ter dance or yer'll freeze ter death.' Then he started her a-going and we all waltzed around. He played faster and faster, and kept us on our feet or bours. Then by playing, and when the peddler storped Halehebeck of play the machine. We just kept dancing right along for tweive hours, until davlight came. Monday morning. Then we stopped dancing long enough to was a veery with the property of servagarilla aboard, but it was frozen au, and each of us sucked and chewed at it to kind of relieve our servagarilla or bitting off chunks. We were all settling down to the given-up-for-lost point, for, bestdes being hungry and cold, we were awfully sleeny. It grain to be the middle of the third tax and Hallensus dance. The peddler he took turns at the machine, and brook, we danced and danced until we were hardly able to stand. When we were about to stop Hallenbeck would trook and the season of the stand of the weather about to stop Hallenbeck would trook and the season of the se